

CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A fluid transfer system ~~to for the transfer of fluid via at least one pipeline from one a first structure to another a second structure, wherein the second structure comprises a receiving terminal, comprising a and the first structure having comprises~~ an offloading arm which is movable in two planes perpendicular to each other and in which a part of the offloading arm remote from the first structure is engagable with a second structure, so to allow linear and rotational movements between the structures, and wherein at least a part of the pipeline along the offloading arm, remote from the first structure is attached to at least one support which is lengthwise movably connected to the offloading arm by means of at least one support moveable lengthwise relative to the offloading arm, and this wherein said part of the pipeline includes at least a first pipeline section configured to compensate for relative movements between the first structure and the second structure, two structures in the longitudinal direction of the offloading arm, the first pipeline section being configured as a helix with the helical axis extending generally parallel with the longitudinal direction of the offloading arm, and the spiral pipeline being capable of sustaining a helical shape under the combined weight of the pipeline and fluid within the pipeline and wherein the fluid transfer system comprises a connector trolley which is movably secured to the offloading arm such that the connector trolley can move back and forth along the offloading arm, the connector trolley and the receiving terminal of the second structure being provided with complementary connecting means such that the connector trolley can be connected to the receiving terminal of the second structure.
2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (cancelled)
5. (currently amended) A fluid transfer system according to claim 1, wherein the part of the pipeline along the offloading arm also includes at least a second rigid pipeline section which is rigid and connected to supports moveable lengthwise relative to the offloading arm.

6. (currently amended) A fluid transfer system according to claim 5, wherein ~~the~~ at least one of the supports support is a wheel mounted trolley arranged for movement lengthwise relative to the offloading arm.
7. (cancelled)
8. (currently amended) A fluid transfer system according to ~~claim 7~~ claim 1, wherein the pipeline is connected to the ~~respective structures~~ the first structure and the second structure by joints capable of accommodating angular and rotational movement between the pipeline and the respective structure first structure and the second structure.
9. (currently amended) A fluid transfer system according to claim 8, wherein the pipeline is connected to one of the respective structures by a hinge joint and to the other of the respective structures by hinge joints.
10. (currently amended) A fluid transfer system according to ~~claim 9~~ claim 1, wherein the pipeline has at least one joint arranged to compensate for movements between the offloading arm and the first and second structures due to thermal expansion and contraction ~~relative to the offloading arm and/or either or both of the structures~~, whereby ~~to allow~~ an optimum alignment of adjacent lengths of pipeline is allowed.
11. (currently amended) A fluid transfer system according to ~~claim 10~~ claim 1, wherein ~~there are~~ the fluid transfer system is provided with a plurality of pipelines extending between the first structure and the second structures.
12. (cancelled)
13. (currently amended) A fluid transfer system according to ~~claim 12~~ claim 1, wherein tension is applied between the second structure and the part of the offloading arm engagable with that second structure, so to resist separation of the loading arm and the structure.
14. (cancelled)
15. (new) A fluid transfer system according to claim 1 wherein the connecting means for connecting the connector trolley to the receiving terminal comprises hinge joints with a pin which together can be considered as a universal joint.

16. (new) A fluid transfer system according to claim 1 wherein the connecting means for connecting the connector trolley to the receiving terminal comprises hinge joints with a cone which together can be considered as a universal joint.
17. (new) A fluid transfer system according to claim 1 wherein the first pipeline section has a helical shape and is suspended from the at least one support.